

# TORRANCE HERALD

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Torrance, California

Section B



TO SING IN TORRANCE . . . Appearing in the third presentation of Torrance Community Concerts Association, Inc., is Anna Kaskas, above, who will sing in Torrance High School Auditorium next Wednesday night.

## Anna Kaskas, Contralto, Will Sing Here March 3

As popular concert artist and as leading member of the Metropolitan Opera Association, Anna Kaskas, who sings here on March 3 (next Wednesday) at 8:15 p.m. in Torrance High School auditorium, is a contralto to conjure with.

Born in Connecticut of Lithuanian parents, this golden-haired, luscious-voiced young artist has built up an enviable career. She has sung with the Metropolitan in New York and on tour, has made opera appearances in Chicago, Montreal and Cincinnati, has been soloist with major orchestras under great conductors, has done radio and oratorio work with distinction, has starred at the country's music festivals. In concert particularly, her vibrant personality and glowing voice have made her one of the most glamorous figures before the music public.

Anna Kaskas was born in Bridgeport, a year before her family moved to Hartford where she was brought up. As a growing girl she sang in the choir of the Church of the Holy Trinity and won two scholarships, for voice and piano, at the Hartford Conservatory of Music. On the side, to earn money, she worked as a stenographer.

Her talent was so pronounced that it caught the interest of a prominent music lover who financed a trip to Lithuania, the birthplace of her parents.

At Kaunas (or Kovno) the blonde, attractive young girl made her debut as Ulrica in Verdi's "Masked Ball." There she had the good fortune to meet Antonas Smetona, then the President of Lithuania. He had heard of the plucky American

## County Studies Conversion Of Ocean Water

In furtherance of his suggestion for the economical conversion of sea water into fresh water, Supervisor Raymond V. Darby presented to the Board of Supervisors, at a recent meeting, a resolution which was passed unanimously by the Board.

The resolution asks that various universities and colleges, the Bureau of Light and Power of the City of Los Angeles and the Metropolitan Water District be requested to make scientific studies, to the end that a method may be devised for the economical reclamation of fresh water from the ocean, and that the State Legislature be requested to examine the feasibility of offering a substantial monetary reward, approximating \$1,000,000 to the scientist or scientists who are successful in devising such a method.

Supervisor Darby stated that the benefits to be obtained from such a process would go far beyond the limits of Los Angeles County, as it would benefit all coastal regions.

He indicated that such a process, to be of economic benefit, would have to produce the fresh water at a cost of not more than \$15.00 per acre foot, inasmuch as Colorado river water is already being delivered at San Dimas at a cost of \$8.99 per acre foot and Owens River Valley water is delivered at a cost of \$18.75 per acre foot at Castaic.

## Iowans To Meet Feb. 28 For Annual Picnic

Scores of Torrance families will be on hand Saturday, Feb. 28, when more than 85,000 Iowans gather at Lincoln Park for their annual Winter Picnic. The affair, which will help mark Iowa's commencement of its second century of statehood, will be attended by Iowans traveling from the Hawkeye State for this picnic, as well as by former Iowans now residing here in Southern California.

Frank Miles, prominent leader of American Legion activities, and currently a public relations counselor in Des Moines, will be the chief speaker, while guests of honor include Frank F. Merriam, former governor of California; Los Angeles County Supervisor Leonard Roach; and Captain Ray Tarbuck of the USS "Iowa."

Conducted by the Iowa Association of Southern California, the picnic will state at 9 a.m. with the registration of Iowans at Lincoln Park, located at the end of North Main street in Los Angeles. Registration will take place according to the home counties of the assembled Hawkeyes, at 1 p.m., addresses by the speakers will be heard, followed by a program of entertainment being arranged by Herman J. Garretson, chairman of the program committee.

## 'Stop Accidents' Program Pays Off At Columbia

Accident prevention programs paid real dividends to Columbia Steel Company during 1947. It was the safest year from the standpoint of injury frequency in Columbia's history, according to J. L. Turner, director of industrial relations.

During the 12-month period, only 21 disabling accidents were recorded in this United States Steel Corporation subsidiary's mills at Pittsburg and Torrance, California.

A tabulation sets the injury frequency rate for 1947 at 2.07 disabling injuries per million man-hours worked, a decrease of 34 per cent from the 3.13 rate of 1946. Total man-hours worked for 1947 was 10,159,095, the greatest number of man-hours worked in any peacetime year.

Three times during 1947 the Pittsburg mill exceeded one million injury-free man-hours, and Torrance also achieved one such period. Both plants received the highest industrial safety award issued by the National Safety Council.

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